

controlling electrical voltage to said plurality of light emitting diodes,

wherein said plurality of diodes are cylindrical in configuration and wherein said frame means includes a mounting template and said means for mounting includes said mounting template forming a plurality of individually positioned cylindrical recesses wherein each said diode of said plurality of diodes is positioned within one of said plurality of cylindrical recesses wherein each said discrete diode light beam is independently directed to said focal point.

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 2, 2003. The Examiner's comments in that Office Action have been carefully considered.

In light of the Restriction/Election Requirement, claims 42-58 have been canceled without prejudice, having been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional application to cover the subject matter of these claims.

This Amendment cancels three independent claims and adds seven new independent claims to this application. A fee for four extra independent claims is thus required, and the U.S. Patent Office is authorized to charge the \$172.00 due herein (\$43.00 per claim X 4 claims) to our account no. 10-0100.

Claims 1-3, 10, 11, 31-33, 36 and 37 have been rejected; claims 4-9, 12-30, 34, 35 and 38-41 have been objected to; and 59-115 have been allowed.

Claims 1-3, 10, 11, 31, 36 and 37 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent

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No. 5,580,163 issued to Johnson II, while claims 32 and 33 have been rejected as being obvious on the basis of this reference. The objected to claims have been objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to this Office Action, applicant has amended claims 1-3 and added new claims 116-122, which rewrite allowable claims 4, 6, 8, 12, 23, 34 and 38, respectively. Claims 116-122 should, therefore, also be allowed.

Regarding the rejected claims, the full anticipation and obviousness rejections are respectfully traversed, particularly in light of the amendments to claims 1-3 and the arguments that are presented below. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding rejections and withdraw the same.

As amended, claim 1 now requires that the frame means include a substantially rigid mounting template for provided a substantially fixed hollow volume. The diodes are mounted within such hollow volume and positioned to provide a light beam directed to a predetermined, substantially fixed remote focal point. It is respectfully submitted that Johnson II fails to teach a lighting system as currently more clearly and specifically defined in amended claim 1.

The patent to Johnson II relates to a focusing light source with flexible mount for multiple light-emitting elements. Johnson II discloses such a focusing light source that includes a flexible membrane to which light-emitting elements are attached. A physical construction is used to flex in such membrane so that the light from the collective output of the light-emitting can be focused over a range of focal

distances. Clearly, the reference discloses, contemplates and teaches a light source in which the focal point position is a function of the degree of flex in the membrane. The LEDs, therefore, move with the movements of the membrane. The reference contemplates, therefore, a plurality, in fact, an infinite number of focal point locations that can be adjustably and selectively obtained.

Turning to the present invention, this application does not disclose an adjustable focusing system. The lighting system disclosed is a fixed focus light source. Also, there are no means provided for flexing a circuit board or any part of the light source to adjust focusing or vary or modify the position of the focal point. The circuit board to which a plurality of emitting diodes are mounted, in some of the embodiments, is flexible only to conform to the inside volume of a rigid support housing or template. The individual light-emitting diodes are, therefore, attached to the flexible circuit board at predetermined angles so that they are all permanently focused on one fixed position and location. This fixed focus position substantially fills the gate area at all times.

Furthermore, the subject invention is designed to have the rigid support housing or template, the gate area and the collective focal point remain stationary at the same location at all times. Final projected illumination and beam angles are controlled by the use of lenses that alter the light beams only. This is in contrast to the applied reference, which teaches a method of changing the collective focal point by moving the entire assembly consisting of the support housing or template, the flexible membrane and the light-emitting elements attached thereto as a whole. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify this aspect or feature of the invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 clearly and patentably distinguishes over Johnson II, and that claim 1 and all claim that depend directly

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or indirectly on claim 1 should likewise be allowed with the allowance of claim 1.

This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early allowance and issuance is, accordingly, respectfully solicited.

Applicant hereby petitions that any and all extensions of time of the term necessary to render this response timely be granted. COSTS FOR SUCH EXTENSION(S) AND/OR ANY OTHER FEE DUE WITH THIS FEE DUE WITH THIS PAPER THAT ARE NOT FULLY COVERED BY AN ENCLOSED CHECK MAY BE CHARGED TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT #10-0100.

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Lackebach Siegel LLP
One Chase Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583
Telephone: 914 723 4300
MG/as

Respectfully submitted,

LACKENBACH SIEGEL LLP
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By: 

MYRON GREENSPAN
Reg. No.: 25,680

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Myron Greenspan

Name


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December 2, 2003

Date